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Globalization and interdependence

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mr. Jean Claudy Pierre (Haiti), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.9

Culture and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997, 53/184 of 15 December 1998, 55/192 of 20 December 2000 and 57/249 of 20 December 2002 on culture and development,

Recalling also the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity[1] and its Action Plan[2] by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001 and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[3] as well as other international conventions of that organization that acknowledge the important role of cultural diversity for social and economic development,

Recognizing that culture is an essential component of human development, represents a source of identity, innovation and creativity for the individual and the community and an important factor in the fight against poverty, providing for economic growth and ownership of development processes,

Acknowledging that culture is a source of enrichment and an important contributor to the sustainable development of local communities, peoples and nations, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives,

[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Ibid., *Thirty-third Session, Paris, 3-21 October 2005*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 41.

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Acknowledging also the diversity of the world, recognizing that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind and emphasizing the importance of culture for development and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing the linkages between cultural and biological diversity and the positive contribution of local and indigenous traditional knowledge in addressing environmental challenges in a sustainable manner,

Noting with satisfaction that in its resolution 65/1 entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals", the General Assembly emphasized the importance of culture for development and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and in this respect encourages international cooperation in the cultural field, aimed at achieving development objectives,

1. *Emphasizes* the important contribution of culture for sustainable development and the achievement of national development objectives and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

2. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and relevant non-governmental organizations:

(a) To raise public awareness of the importance of cultural diversity for sustainable development, promoting its positive value through education and media tools;

(b) To ensure a more visible and effective integration and mainstreaming of culture in development policies and strategies at all levels;

(c) To promote capacity-building, where appropriate, at all levels for the development of a dynamic cultural and creative sector, in particular by encouraging creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, supporting the development of sustainable cultural institutions and cultural industries, providing technical and vocational training for culture professionals and increasing employment opportunities in the cultural and creative sector for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development;

(d) To actively support the emergence of local markets for cultural goods and services and facilitate their effective and licit access to international markets, taking into account the expanding range of cultural consumption and, for States parties to it, the provisions of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;

(e) To preserve and maintain local and indigenous traditional knowledge and community practices of environmental management, which are valuable examples of culture as a vehicle for environmental sustainability and sustainable development, and to foster synergies between modern science and local and indigenous knowledge;

(f) To support national legal frameworks and policies for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage and cultural property,[4] the fight against illicit

[4] As defined in article 1 of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

trafficking of cultural property and the return of cultural property,[5] in accordance with national legislation and applicable international legal frameworks, including by promoting international cooperation to prevent the misappropriation of cultural heritage and products, recognizing the importance of intellectual property rights in sustaining those involved in cultural creativity;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all relevant stakeholders to enhance international cooperation in supporting the efforts of developing countries for the development and consolidation of cultural industries, cultural tourism and culture-related microenterprises and to assist them in developing the necessary infrastructure and skills, as well as in mastering information and communications technologies and gaining access to new technologies on mutually agreed terms;

4. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to assist Member States, upon their request, in developing their national capacities to assess how best to optimize the contribution of culture to development, including through information sharing, exchange of best practices, data collection, research and study and the use of appropriate evaluation indicators, in accordance with their national priorities and taking into account relevant General Assembly resolutions;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in conjunction, as appropriate, with other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to continue to provide support and facilitate financing, as appropriate, upon request, to developing countries, in particular with regard to national capacity-building for the implementation of applicable international cultural conventions, taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the Millennium Development Goals;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations country teams further integrate and mainstream culture into their programming exercises, in particular United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in consultation with relevant national authorities, when assisting countries in the pursuit of their development objectives;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-sixth session, a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution, and to include therein an assessment of the value and desirability of organizing a United Nations conference on culture and development, including its aim, level, format and timing, as well as budgetary implications.

[5] In line with the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.